a girl, 19 years of age, very intelligent, and belonging to a family of the better class.

The convulsive twitchings occur in the face and upper extremities, and are accompanied by the sudden emission of inarticulate cries and of obscene and filthy words. At the age of six years, choreiform movements commenced in the eyes, face, neck, and arms. At twelve years, indistinct gutteral noises, as ouh, ouah ! were emitted. At fourteen, obscene and sacriligious words. She repeated all noises which attracted her attention, barking when she hears or even speaks of a dog. Gestures are sometimes imitated. She has various caprices. She not only does and says that which she does not want to, but cannot always do that which she does want to. Wishing to carress a cat, she calls it, but an impulse forces her to push it from her. There is no inco-ordination, but a true impulse. In this affection the reflexes are unduly excitable, whereas the voluntary nervous system is weakened. There is no inhibition of voluntary acts. All in all, it is an impulsive mania.

The author believes that the affection is curable, and his plan of treatment is to lessen the reflex excitement and to strengthen the will-power. This was attempted by moral influence (faith cure ?), and with beneficial result.

In the discussion, Dulony (de Rochefort) cites a case which shows that the affection may occur in persons of very strong will-power, and believes that it is closely allied to hysteria. Bezy (de Toulouse) also cites a similar case.

G. W. J.

THE LESIONS IN MORPHINOMANIA AND THE PRESENCE OF MORPHINE IN THE VISCERA.—Prof. Ball, *Gazette de Hôpitaux*, p. 1,053, 1887.

At the meeting of the French Academy of Medicine of October, 1887, Prof. Ball read a communication, as above. Thus far all investigations of morphinomania have been made upon the living organism, to the neglect of anatomical investigations. This may be ascribed to the rarity of autopsies in such cases. All that has been noticed anatomically is fatty degeneration of the heart, morphinic phthisis, various other acute or chronic pulmonary lesions, gangrene of the extremities, deep abscesses, cerebral œdema, etc, but no one has until now noticed the presence of morphine in the viscera. Ball has observed this feature in a case which occurred at the Asile St. Anne of Paris upon an hysterical morphinomaniac, who took one gramme of morphine daily. An attempt was made at sudden suppression, in consequence of which severe collapse ensued. A hypodermic of morphine, however, restored her. Then gradual suppression was attempted ; but as soon as the morphine was entirely discontinued, severe collapse occurred and death ensued. The autopsy showed fatty degeneration of the heart. Microscopical investigation showed no changes in the nervous system. Kidneys and liver normal. Chemical examination revealed the presence of morphine in nearly all the organs, in the nervous centers, in the spleen, the kidneys, and, above all, in the liver. Ball, in view of this case, warns emphatically against the sudden withdrawal of morphine. G. W. J.

TWO PECULIAR FORMS OF SPASMS. *Report of the 60th Congress of German naturalists and physicians at Wiesbaden, Sept. 18th to 24th, 1887.*

Benedict, of Vienna, before the section of internal medicine, read a paper which described two peculiar forms of convulsive or spastic attacks. The first relates to patients convalescing from myelitic paraplegia, who can walk but are unable to stand. In these cases there is a propulsive and retropulsive convulsive movement on standing. As soon as these patients attempted to stand, they were driven a few steps forward and then just as many steps backward from their original position. In a case of convalescence from subacute myelitis, this symptom developed ; and from the fact that it conformed to a sort of static spasm, the author desired to call it forward "pendulum spasm." The patients oscillate forwards on attempting to stand.

The second form developed in the convalescence from hemiplegia. The affected foot is not put forward in regular tempo, but the patient makes a number of forcibly inter-